Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Spann, 601.359.6680

Date: February 14, 2001

CITY OF BALDWYN AWARDED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT

JACKSON, Miss. – The City of Baldwyn was recently awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$463,770 for Economic Development Public Improvements. The original application was submitted on behalf of Advantage by Lucky Star, Inc.

Advantage by Lucky Star plans to construct a new manufacturing facility in Baldwyn. The company currently operates in a 45-year facility in the area. The funds will be utilized to construct an access road and provide water and sanitary sewer to serve the new facility. Advantage by Lucky Star will invest \$2,000,000 in building and equipment; the city of Baldwyn will contribute \$13,200 to assist in gas improvements.

The new facility will create seventy-five new permanent full-time jobs. At least 51% of those jobs will be made available to low- and moderate-income persons.

"The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) is proud that our partnership at the local level creates a foundation for economic growth," commented J.C. Burns, Executive Director of MDA.

CDBG is a program of the Community Services Division of the Mississippi Development Authority. Among the division's goals are assisting communities in analyzing their strengths and weaknesses, involving their leadership in economic development, planning development strategies, strengthening development organizations, and implementing and financing community projects. The Community Services Division also administers other Economic Development grant and loan programs.

###